



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

MAY/JUNE 2018
NO. 212

We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: (763) 571-3450
www.FridleyMN.gov
email: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott J. Lund

Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette

Councilmember 1st Ward – James T. Saefke

Councilmember 2nd Ward – Dolores M. Varichak

Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom

City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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A Pollinator-Friendly Fridley

Did you know that Minnesota is home to over 350 native species of bees? Bees, along with butterflies and some species of birds and bats, play an important role in our economy and ecosystem as pollinators. Animal pollinators are responsible for 75% of flowering plants and one-third of our food and drink production. However, many pollinator species are declining due to habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticide use and pathogens.

Pollinators thrive when they have access to native flowers and pesticide-free environments. In recognition of the importance of pollinators, the City Council recently declared Fridley as a Pollinator-Friendly Community. Be on the lookout for more pollinator-friendly gardens in Fridley parks.

You can help! Lawns are a huge part of our urban ecosystem. Consider planting a pollinator patch in your own yard to support our bees and butterflies. Native, pollinator-friendly plants also provide more water quality benefits and carbon sequestration than exotic plants. Check out www.FridleyMN.gov/pollinator for more information about pollinators and simple steps for making your lawn more pollinator friendly.

Interested in combining your pollinator patch with a rain garden? Check out our July issue for more information.



Fridley Awarded Tree City USA

May is Arbor Month, and a great time to plant a tree! In celebration of trees, we are pleased to be awarded Tree City USA status for 2017, a recognition of our commitment to enhancing Fridley's urban forest.

Trees can increase your property value, lower your energy use and improve air and water quality.



Time to start planning...



Tuesday, August 7, 2018

Heart Safe Fridley

Trained Police Officers and Firefighters will be demonstrating community CPR and the importance of immediate action during a sudden cardiac event.

Register for your neighborhood block party online:
FridleyMN.gov/NightToUnite
*Registration is required to request a visit from police, fire or city officials.

Questions? Call Courtney Miller at
763-572-3626 or email
FridleyPolice@FridleyMN.gov



Who are the people in your neighborhood?

Who’s Knocking? If you live in SE Fridley, it might be a city appraiser.

City appraisers hit the streets in May. Homes are visited every 5 years, and this year the concentration is on the southeast corner of the city, south of Hathaway Lane and east of Central Avenue.

What does an appraiser do and why?

Appraisers go house-to-house, door-to-door and collect information about your home. They are taking notes about the condition of your property and confirming housing records (things like the number of bedrooms and bathrooms). This information is used to estimate market value for property taxes payable in 2020.

When will appraisers be visiting?

Appraisers will visit those homes in the SE section of the city beginning in May and continuing throughout the summer. Inspections take place Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Will I know when appraisers are coming?

Yes. You will receive a postcard 7-10 days before they visit to let you know they will be in the area soon.

Do I need to be home during the visit?

No. Appraisers will knock on your door before conducting any inspection. If you are not home, they will leave a tag on your door to let you know they were there. This notice will indicate any further action needed, if any.

What can I expect? How do I know it is actually a city assessor?

All city appraisers drive city vehicles and carry city identification badges, which they show you as soon as you come to the door. Be safe and always ask to see this photo id badge.

Will they need to come inside?

City appraisers will conduct an exterior inspection of your home on the date of this visit and gather data such as siding and window type, verify the style and sketch of the home, and make note of any depreciation or new improvements. Sometimes an interior inspection is required.

If you are not home when an appraiser arrives and an interior inspection is needed, they will leave a tag on your door with a number to call to set up an appointment time. Appraisers will do their best to accommodate your busy schedule with early morning and late afternoon appointments when needed. The interior inspection usually takes less than ten or fifteen minutes. During this time, they verify the number of bedrooms, bathrooms, finished areas in the lower level or basement and general condition of cabinetry, fixtures and finish surfaces. They are happy to answer any valuation or classification questions you may have regarding your home as well.

Questions?

If you have any questions in advance of an appraiser visit, please contact Patrick Maghrak, Residential Appraiser, at 763-572-3536 or Mary Smith, Assessor, at 763-572-3537.

Partnering for a Safer, Cleaner Neighborhood

Picture this: It is a beautiful June day. The sun is shining, the birds are chirping, a city inspector is walking down the street with a clipboard. Before you shout “Oh no!”—don’t panic, your beautiful day is not ruined. This inspector is here to help. Fridley has regulations surrounding the look and condition of the outside appearance of your home and yard. It is a great tool in detouring crime and keeping neighborhood peace.

This summer, a city intern will be making their way around the city, helping to educate homeowners. These systematic inspections check for things like extra-long grass, broken fences and inoperable vehicles.

What to expect:

- If the inspector notices a concern, a courtesy notice will be mailed out with a friendly reminder of the city code, and a timeline of 15 days to address it.
- Another common letter to receive over the summer is a “Weed Letter.” This letter is more urgent than a courtesy notice, as grass can grow very fast. Weed letters are sent to properties where

the majority of the grass or weeds exceed 10 inches. A weed letter will give the property owner 10 days to have the area cut to less than 10 inches. If the grass/weeds have not been mowed/trimmed, a contractor is sent to mow the property and the owner is invoiced for the cost of such service, as well as abatement administrative costs. The property is then on a regular mowing schedule until the owner asks to have it removed.

Confused on the letter or the issue? Not sure what to do? Call us! We are here to help.

Helpful Tips:

Here are some helpful tips on how you can prevent receiving a letter.

1. Take advantage of the city recycling events on May 12 and July 14. These events are perfect for getting rid of that mattress that has been sitting around. Residents can look for a mailing with coupons or visit the City website for more details.



2. Review common codes on the city website. The top violations inspectors see are outdoor storage, parking on grass, inoperable vehicles, long grass, and garbage cans improperly stored.
3. Ask questions! Not sure where you can store your boat? Wondering if you can have a natural landscape? Call the Neighborhood Preservation Specialist at (763) 572-3598 and ask. We would love to hear from you.

Remember that systematic inspections are nothing to be afraid of. They are part of reminding residents of city codes and helping clean up the city. So when you see an inspector this summer wave and say “Hello!”

What to Expect on Fridley Streets this Summer:

69th Avenue and Anoka St:

The 0.65 miles east of Central Avenue is scheduled to be under construction from June through September. The city will be removing and replacing asphalt, broken and settled curbs, fire hydrants; and reducing the width of the current roadway. These improvements will help lower maintenance costs including plowing needs and traffic speed reduction and will add a new shared use trail.

West Moore Lake Drive:

The project, scheduled for June through August, will include pavement rehabilitation; adding a 10 foot multi-use trail on the west side of the street from Medtronic Parkway to 61st Avenue; establishing bike lanes on the north and south side of the roadway from 61st Avenue to Hwy 65; and utility improvements.

Highway 65 and West Moore Lake Drive:

The city will be replacing 1,300 feet of water main pipe prior to MnDOT installing a new storm sewer in this area. Intermittent short-term road and land closures are expected in May and June. There will be a shoulder closure on southbound Hwy 65 north of Moore Lake Drive and lane restrictions on the frontage road along west Hwy 65 during this project.

Street Seal Coating

Seal coating will take place throughout the summer on selected streets north of Locke Lake between University Avenue NE and the Mississippi River. Construction impacts will be limited to 1-2 hours on respective streets.

Stonybrook Drainage Improvements

Fridley’s flood control project will add a storm sewer interceptor on Craigbrook Way from East River Road to Alden Way. Construction impacts will include partial closures and short detours of East River Road, Craigbrook Way, and Alden Way.

East River Road Resurfacing

Anoka County will be resurfacing East River Road from Charles Street to Rice Creek Way this season. The project also includes limited drainage repair.

If you reside in an area affected by one of these projects, you have or will receive a mailed notice. You can also check for Construction Updates at FridleyMN.gov/streetprojects, or by calling 763-572-3554.



It is significantly cheaper to maintain streets with surface seal and minor rehabilitation than it is to wait until major repairs are needed. Maintained roads can remain in good condition for 30+ years. Roads that are not regularly maintained will start to see significant decline after 8–10 years and will require major rehabilitation around the 25-year mark. Fridley works hard to combat the increasing costs of maintenance and age repairs with a regular schedule that targets declining conditions.

The Buzz about Bees (and Chickens, too)

Do you have an interest in beekeeping? This hobby has recently grown in popularity, and several residents have asked about the possibility of having bee colonies at their homes. In response, the City Council amended Fridley’s animal control law to allow for the keeping of chickens and bees with a city license.

What you need for a license:

- Proof of completion of an educational program on raising and keeping chickens or bees.
- A site plan of the property showing the location, size and setback requirements. (The chicken coop or bee colony must be located in the backyard and must be a minimum of 30 feet from all adjacent property lines.)
- A diagram or photograph of proposed coop and run, or bee colony.
- Information on proposed sanitation and storage of food to prevent a nuisance.

The rules:

- Maximum number of chickens = 6. No roosters allowed.
- Maximum number of bee colonies = 2.
- The raising of chickens for breeding purposes is prohibited.
- Honey may not be sold from any residential property.
- There shall be no slaughtering or butchering of chickens on the property.



- Inspections by city staff are required prior to the issuance of the license or annual renewal, or upon receiving a nuisance complaint about the chickens or bees.

For more information on all the regulations and conditions, please refer to Chapter 101, Animal Control, of the Fridley City Code (Section 101.04 for chickens and Section 101.05 for bees). License applications are available online at FridleyMN.gov or at city hall. The license period begins May 1 and ends April 30 of each year. The initial license fee is \$100 and annual renewal is \$25.

Fridley Community Calendar

May

- 3 HRA Meeting
- 5 Environmental Fun Fair
- 7 Charter Commission
- 7 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 8 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 12 Recycling Drop-off at Green Lights Recycling
- 14 City Council Meeting
- 16 Planning Commission
- 28 City Offices Closed for Memorial Day
- 29 City Council Meeting
- 30 Evening Coffee with Cops at Fridley City Hall

June

- 4 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 6 Appeals Commission
- 7 HRA Meeting
- 11 City Council Meeting
- 12 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 14 Fridley ‘49er Days Parade
- 16 Fridley ‘49er Days Festival
- 20 Planning Commission
- 25 City Council Meeting

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Center, 6431 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.



REEL IN THE REWARDS

AT FRIDLEY LIQUOR



Two convenient locations:
University Ave or Hwy 65

We have the supplies you really need for a weekend at the lake!
Find hours, directions and rewards details online at FridleyLiquor.com.



Let’s Ride!

Join us on National Trails Day for a family-friendly bike ride.

Saturday, June 2 • 10:00 a.m.

Meet at the Farmer’s Market at the Fridley Community Center

4-Mile or 7-Mile Route, including:
Rice Creek Regional Trail
Mississippi Regional Trail
new Main Street Bike Trail and Bridge

All ages. Everyone welcome. Free event.



Get Involved

Looking for a way to get involved? New to the area and want to meet new people? Interested in nature, law enforcement, fire prevention or community events? Want to help shape Fridley’s future?

Dedicated and involved citizens like you make Fridley a strong and vibrant community. No matter what level of activity or time commitment you are interested in, Fridley has a need for you.

Here are a few ideas and contacts to get you started:

Springbrook Nature Center

- Join the Springbrook Foundation: 800-675-4317. They currently have openings on the board, in various committees or to help out with major events.
- Volunteer in the Adult Docent program: 763-572-3588 or dress up for Pumpkin Night in the Park, clean up the trails during spring cleaning, or help kids with arts and crafts. Springbrook maintains a list of interested volunteers who are ready to jump in and join the fun. Scout and community leaders—this is a great way for groups to learn and make a difference.



Fridley Police: 763-572-3629

- Police reserve officers support sworn patrol officers with traffic control, transportation, crime prevention and security. They drive a marked patrol car, wear a uniform, and carry a full duty belt, minus a firearm. They must commit to a 10-week (one night per week) training, monthly meetings and be able to volunteer eight additional hours each month. Visit FridleyMN.gov/505 to learn more.
- Be a block captain. Block captains are essential to building neighborhood relationships with Fridley Police. They connect with neighbors, support Neighborhood Watch, share crime alerts and crime prevention efforts, and form a partnership with Neighborhood Resource Officers. Want to be a block captain or connect with one in your neighborhood? Reach out to Courtney Miller at 763-572-3626.
- Citizens Academy: Fall 2018. This program meets weekly for eight weeks in the fall. Its purpose is to give community members insight into police operations and activities.

Positively Fridley: Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., City Hall – lower level. This fairly new community group was formed to help the Fridley community move in positive directions. These volunteers share ideas and challenges, and explore ways to make Fridley a better place for everyone. Meetings are open to residents, Fridley business owners, and others connected to Fridley. If you cannot attend a regular meeting, reach out to Stephen Eggert at stephenhenryeggert@gmail.com for other ways you can get involved.

Run for Council

Ready for a bigger role in city government? The Fridley City Council includes the Mayor and four Council members who are responsible for setting city policies. These are elected representatives who serve four-year terms. Three Council seats will be on the 2018 ballot.

Here is what you need to know:
FILING DATES FOR CITY COUNCIL

The offices of Councilmember Wards 1, 2 and 3 will be on the ballot in 2018. Filing for these offices begins Tuesday, May 22, 2018, and ends Tuesday, June 5, 2018. City offices will be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through June 4, closed for the Memorial Day Holiday on May 28, and open until 5:00 p.m. on June 5.

At the time of filing, candidates for office must provide to the City Clerk a Nomination Petition circulated and signed during the filing period by at least 10 registered voters and a \$10 application fee. If more than two candidates file for one office, a Primary Election will be held on August 14 to determine which two candidates will move forward to the November General Election.

To run for one of these four-year terms, a candidate must be a registered voter, at least 21 years of age upon assuming office, a resident of the city for at least thirty days by election day, and not have filed for any other office during this election cycle.

For additional information regarding the requirements or for a copy of filing materials, please call the City Clerk at 763-572-3523 or e-mail your questions to deb.skogen@FridleyMN.gov.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Throughout May and June, your Neighborhood Resource Officers will be hosting events at a park near you. Watch for announcements on NextDoor, Facebook and Twitter, or for a list of locations and dates check the website at FridleyMN.gov.

Get out and welcome spring, meet the police officers dedicated to your neighborhood, and share concerns and crime prevention ideas. We will also be asking for your feedback on local parks and future events, plus this is a great time to start planning your Night to Unite party. *Hope to see you there!*



New! Curbside Organics Collection

Turn your food waste into valuable garden soil and reduce your trash. You can make a difference!

Fridley now offers curbside organics pickup, similar to recycling. \$10/month includes everything you need to get started. Plus register by May 31 and receive a coupon for a free 20 lb. bag of compost, just in time for planting season!

Learn more at FridleyMN.gov/organics or call 763-572-3594.



BANFILL-LOCKE CENTER FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS...



THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 5–8 P.M.

TICKETS: \$35 IN ADVANCE / \$40 AT THE DOOR
FOOD. MUSIC. ART.
WWW.BANFILL-LOCKE.ORG

Don't Waste Your Grad Party

The hottest trend in graduation parties = a Zero Waste Event

Zero Waste Parties combine retro and new ways to host a party that stands out while making a difference. The goal is to make little or no garbage, only recycling and organics. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

1. Natural Beauty

Decorate in style and on trend with natural (and compostable) items. Flowers and greenery add color and sophistication to your event. Added benefit: no garbage!

2. Reduce Packaging

Start by considering the packaging of your food and beverages. Serving walking tacos? Use compostable bowls and buy party size chips instead of single serve bags. They are cheaper and produces less waste. Recycle those beverage cans and bottles, and consider cloth table cloths instead of plastic. Could food items be bought in reusable/recyclable packaging?

3. Organics Collection

Curbside organics collection has begun in Fridley through Republic Services. If you participate in this program, then you can put all food, paper napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes, and compostable plates and cups in the organics cart to be collected and made into compost. Compostable plateware can purchased online and at many local stores. If you want to find out more about participating in this program, visit the website: www.FridleyMN.gov/organics



4. Borrowed Dishes & Silverware

A graduation party brings friends and family together and many people will be happy to contribute to the cause. One way to seek help and reduce waste is to borrow dishes and silverware from others. Then have a bowl of warm soapy water to act as “wash station” for plates and flatware.

5. Clear Instructions

Make sure your garbage, recycling, organics, and wash stations are convenient and have clear instructions. People are often unsure or hesitant about throwing things in the wrong bin, so if things are not labeled clearly, they may just toss everything in the trash. Consider fun signage and quotes to connect the future of our environment to the future for your graduate.

2017 Water Quality Report

You can now view our annual water quality report online at FridleyMN.gov/water-quality.

Once again, we are proud to report that your drinking water meets all state and federal standards. Your drinking water continues to be safe, and we continue our commitment to keeping you informed. The 2017 Water Quality Report includes details on the results of water quality testing last year and news relating to Fridley’s water system.

We are driven to ensure your drinking water exceeds the latest state and federal standards. For the latest water supply updates, please visit us online at FridleyMN.gov/water. We are responsive to your drinking water questions or concerns; we welcome your call at 763-572-3554.



Evening Coffee with Cops including FREE coffee!

Wednesday, May 30
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Fridley City Hall: 6431 University Ave
Stop by and learn about this year’s Night to Unite, the Heart Safe community plan, and crime prevention tips for the warm summer months.

Returning this summer... Cops & Cones! We kick it off on June 27, 7–8 pm at McDonald’s, 8100 University Ave. See you there!



Bike Helmet Clinic

May 8 • 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Fridley City Hall: Lower Level
6431 University Ave NE

Bike-related crashes kill 900 people every year and send hundreds of thousands to the ER. Get road-ready at our Bike Helmet Clinic. No appointment needed. Already own a helmet? Stop by for a free fitting. Need a helmet? New Bell® bike helmets available to purchase for \$10 for both children and adults, cash or check only.

Next Recycling & Shredding Event

Saturday, May 12 • 9 a.m. to noon

Green Lights Recycling

1525 99th Lane NE,
Blaine



All Fridley residents are welcome to drop off their old electronics, appliances, fluorescent bulbs, mattresses, scrap metal and more. Plus, free paper shredding and cardboard is accepted at this event.

Many items accepted free. Small charge for large items and quantities. Take advantage of the \$15 coupon and see website for list of items/costs. Call 763-572-3594 or visit the website FridleyMN.gov/drop-off

\$15 OFF

Green Lights Recycling Facility

Valid May 12, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to noon

No cash value
Limit 1 per Fridley resident
Must show proof of Fridley residence.



(left to right: Jeanne, Betty, Connie and Irene)

Serving Seniors for 39 Years

From a corner desk in a room shared with cribbage players, to a full-service facility, Connie Thompson has been the face of senior programming for almost four decades.

The Fridley Senior Program is more than BINGO games, although that is still a favorite. Throughout the years, Connie has introduced a range of activities and services beyond the traditional senior fun including health clinics, Nordic walking, memory classes and even lively discussions of world issues.

Connie retired at the end of March. We thank her for her dedicated service and wish her wonderful new adventures ahead. Connie has no plans to be a stranger, with her continued involvement in the Fridley Community Theatre and teaching classes through community education.

With Connie’s retirement, senior programs will undergo a natural transition to Fridley Community Education which is already housed in the Fridley Community Center. Stephen Keeler has been with Fridley Community Ed for over 10 years and is excited to take on the role of Senior Programming Coordinator. Stephen can be reached at 763-502-5106.

Watch for Senior Program details online at www.FridleyCommEd.com.

2017 Fire Awards

Chief’s Award: Michael Spencer

In October 2017, a 4-plex in Fridley was struck by lightning, resulting in significant damage to the building. One resident had no insurance and was discovered living in the garage. Mike Spencer and a friend, Sue Thrun, took it upon themselves to find shelter, coordinate cleaning out the residence and locate resources to assist the resident in this time of need. These acts of kindness went above and beyond Mike’s official duties, and he is an excellent example of our city’s values.



Firefighter of the Year: Benjamin Knowles

Ben took initiative all year to coordinate events and programs, even dedicating a great deal of personal time. He took over leadership of the Fire Explorer program and organized the October Fire Open House. He spearheaded the purchasing and implementation of ballistic vests into the active shooter response training, which has improved our capability to protect firefighters should such a tragic event occur. No job too big or small, Ben even worked to purchase shelving units for the new building and got them at a bargain price. Ben continually brings forward creative ideas and projects to enhance the productivity and image of the department, and he always does so with a smile and positive attitude.



Ben has accepted a position as a full-time firefighter in Alaska. We thank him for his service; he will be truly missed.

Distinguished Service Awards: Matthew Allard and Michael Spencer

Ramble back in time...

THE 2018 FRIDLEY HISTORIC HOME AND GARDEN TOUR Sunday, July 22

\$12 IN ADVANCE \$15 DAY OF TOUR

Step into Fridley’s most famous era, the 60s: an age of tornadoes, strength and rebuilding.

Hear the stories, experience a time-capsule look back and even hear the beautiful sounds of a homemade organ. Guest speakers and homeowners will be available at several sites.

BUY TICKETS ONLINE AT
AnokaCountyHistory.org

OR BY PHONE AT
763-421-0600

*A fundraiser for the Fridley Historical Society
and the Anoka County Historical Society,
in partnership with the city of Fridley.*



Looking Out for You

Do you live in an apartment or condo? If you live in a multi-family residential building, you may have noticed a firefighter in your building. Annual fire code inspections began in April.

Fridley firefighters visit the common areas of multi-family buildings yearly as part of fire prevention activities. The goal is your safety. Common areas are rooms within the building that are used by residents or employees but are not a private residence. This includes hallways, laundry rooms, storage areas, furnace rooms and party or meeting rooms.

- During these inspections, firefighters are looking for:
- Housekeeping items or equipment that could cause a fire or aid in the spread of a fire;
 - Extension cords, open electrical circuits, combustible or flammable items stored near heat sources; and
 - Anything that prevents residents from safely exiting the building in the event of a fire.

In addition, firefighters make sure equipment such as fire alarms, smoke detectors, sprinklers and exit signs are properly inspected, serviced and in working order.



When the fire inspectors spot a safety concern, they let the building owners know what they found, why it presents a fire hazard and provide education on how to correct and prevent future violations. Owners are then given some time to make corrections.

While smoke detectors, fire alarms and sprinkler systems are important tools, preventing a fire from starting in the first place is the only guarantee for safety. Fire prevention is a key part of the city’s commitment to provide a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable community for everyone.



Fire Aware: Rec Fires

More than 50 wildfires are started each year in Minnesota by campfires that are not completely extinguished, grow too large, or are unattended. Make sure to completely distinguish your recreational fire.

Here are a few quick reminders as you enjoy a night by the fire or roasting s’mores:

- No burning between midnight and 9:00 a.m.
- Use only clean wood or charcoal.
- Fires must be 25 feet from any structure and in a contained area such as a firepit.

- No fires on windy days or during a “burning ban.”
- Fires should be smaller than 3 feet in diameter and flames no more than 2 feet high.
- A competent adult must supervise the fire at all times.
- Keep water (bucket or garden hose) or a fire extinguisher nearby.

For details on the Fridley City Code regarding bonfires or for additional fire safety information, visit the city’s website at FridleyMN.gov/firesafety.

Your Questions

Introducing a new feature where you have the chance to ask us a question! In every issue, we will choose one of your questions to share with our readers.

Have a question?
Submit it online at
www.FridleyMN.gov/AskUs



This month’s question: Can you send a text to 9-1-1?

Our answer: Yes. Text-to-911 is active statewide. This service provides a connection to emergency services for people who are deaf, unable to speak, or in situations when speaking could present a danger. Type 911 into the number field and then message the nature of the emergency and the exact location.

Text 911 should only be used when you cannot safely or physically make a voice call. Critical information can still be exchanged more quickly over a voice call.



Fire Aware: Prevention is Key

Scary Fact – Today fires burn 8x faster than just 20–40 years ago.

Today fires are fast and dangerous. The sound of a smoke alarm means something different today than it did years ago. Smoke alarms are essential to your home safety; now they are basically a two-minute warning.

That’s right. Two Minutes.
Two minutes is about all the time you may have to safely exit your home.

Over the past decade or so, firefighters everywhere have noticed a shift in firefighting. These are dangerous times. Fires that accelerate at astonishing rates; chemicals released by those flames; and finding a difficult balance between training and limiting exposure to these hazards. According to the International Association of Firefighters, cancer overtook heart disease as the number one killer of firefighters. Prevention and education is needed now more than ever.

Why? The synthetic materials used to produce most modern furnishings and décor burn hotter and faster than the natural materials used in the past.

A safety consulting company recently created a two-room demo as part of a larger study on modern fires. The first room was furnished with modern materials and the other “legacy” room with décor from 40 years ago.



Test conducted by Underwriters Laboratories along with the National Institute of Standards and Testing

The Modern Room went from fire start to flashover (floor to ceiling flames) in 3 minutes 40 seconds. The Legacy Room took almost 30 minutes to reach similar engulfment.

- What can you do?
1. Make sure you have working smoke detectors – check those batteries!
 2. Have an escape plan... and practice it. Time your family – can you get out in two minutes? Are there two exits from every room?
 3. Keep doors closed. A closed door can double, even triple, the time you have to escape a fire. Firefighters can do a lot in 5-10 minutes – get on the scene, get a ladder to a window, even put out flames.
 4. Think twice about purchasing or building an open concept home.
 5. Carefully consider your furniture and home furnishings. Synthetic materials are cheaper, but they present a risk. Most synthetics are made of petroleum (so is gasoline), which means your home could go up in flames in just minutes. Natural materials burn at a much slower rate.
 6. Install a home sprinkler system. People do not die in sprinkled homes.

Prevention saves lives. Be Fire Aware.

Now is the Time to Save on Energy Costs

Ana and her husband moved to Fridley last year. As a new homeowner, Ana was looking for help in “prioritizing home improvement projects.” She liked the idea of creating a more comfortable home, and who does not like to save money on energy costs. So she took advantage of a Home Energy Squad visit.

What did Ana think of her Home Energy Squad assessment? “Beyond what I expected,” she said. “I got my money’s worth in lightbulbs alone!” She found the consultants to be knowledgeable and professional, and liked that they “took the time to explain.”

For only \$50, a team of energy consultants will come to your home, evaluate your energy savings opportunities, and:

- Install free materials such as LED bulbs, programmable thermostat, door and attic hatch weather stripping, high-efficiency showerhead and faucet aerators.
- Inspect your attic and wall insulation.
- Perform a blower door and thermal image testing.
- Complete a combustion safety test and carbon monoxide check.
- Provide you with a customized report with additional recommendations.

If your home needs insulation or air sealing their crews will provide a quote for the recommended work and connect you to a qualified contractor that will honor the quote. You will also be connected to the Energy Advisor Service to help you with those next steps.

Whether you are a new homeowner, or have lived in your home for decades, Home Energy Squad can help you reduce energy waste and improve comfort. To schedule an appointment for a Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit, call 651-328-6220.

The city of Fridley is supporting Home Energy Squad Enhanced by buying down the cost to \$50. Home Energy Squad is provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy and delivered by the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE), a Minneapolis nonprofit.

NEW: Fridley was accepted as a Partner of Energy City by Xcel Energy! Our first task will be to form an Energy Action Team and develop the city’s first Energy Action Plan, in partnership with Xcel Energy and the Center for the Energy and Environment. Our goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save on energy bills.

Fridays with Fridley Fire

Our bays are open! Stop by and explore Fire Station 1. Meet firefighters, check out the trucks, get a station tour, make a fire escape plan and learn what you can do to prevent fires at home.

Friday, June 29 • 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Fire Station 1: 6431 University Ave

Fire Fridays will be held throughout the summer. Watch for future dates in July and August.



Lions '49er Days Parade

Thursday, June 14 • 6:30 p.m.

(Line-up time is 5:00 p.m.)

THE PARADE ROUTE STARTS AND ENDS NEAR 61ST AVE AND 7TH ST.

WEST DOWN 61ST AVENUE • NORTH DOWN 7TH STREET • EAST DOWN MISSISSIPPI ST • SOUTH DOWN ABLE ST

NOTICE: Due to staging for the '49er Day parade, 7th Street between 58th-61st Avenues will be closed in both directions beginning mid-afternoon on Thursday, June 14. The street will re-open shortly following the end of the parade.



Fridley '49 Days Festival

Saturday, June 16 • Commons Park – corner of 61st Avenue and 7th Street

KIDS FUN AND GAMES • PETTING ZOO • BINGO • FHS ALL SCHOOL REUNION • STREET DANCE
BEER TENT • VENDOR AND EXHIBIT BOOTHS • FOOD! FOOD! FOOD!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: DUNK A COP!

THE NIGHT CONCLUDES AROUND 10:00 P.M. WITH A SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY!

If you would like to volunteer and help make this annual community celebration a success, get in touch! There is an interest form online at FridleyMN.gov/49erDays or find the '49er Days Committee on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FridleyDays

SUMMER CAMPS

Camps run all summer:
June 11 – August 24



YOUR CHOICE:
ROCK the summer
or
Connect with
NATURE



affordable*
adventures
—
priceless
memories

ROCKS
Hayes Elementary
Daily or weekly
Extended hours available

FridleyMN.gov/recreation
763-572-3570

NATURE CAMPS
Springbrook Nature Center
Week-long day camps
Themed adventures

SpringbrookNatureCenter.org
763-572-3588

REGISTER TODAY!

**Scholarships available for those with financial need. Call to request a Fee Assistance form.*

Don't just read about Fridley history...

EXPERIENCE IT!

Step aboard our comfortable coach bus and be transported back in time. Encounter costumed characters from the 1850s and visit historic landmarks during this narrated tour of an area that 170 years ago was known as Manomin (now Fridley).

4th Annual Fridley History Tour: Saturday, June 16, 1 – 4 p.m.

Tour begins and ends at the Fridley History Center.
Lunch at the historic Riedel House along the banks of the Mississippi River.

Limited to 45 guests.

Cost is \$25/person. Register before June 8: 763-572-3570



SAFETY CAMP 2018 • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

It's not every day that you see a cop dancing or a firefighter doing the limbo! But you might at Fridley Safety Camp where these city protectors are your camp counselors. Don't miss a day of laughter and learning as kids gain invaluable lifelong skills.

Details online at
FridleyMN.gov/safetycamp

